

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 DUBLIN 00942 161716Z

67

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-07

OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 DRC-01 /165 W

----- 004955

R 161520Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5811

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL BELFAST

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DUBLIN 0942

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PBOR, EI

SUBJECT: UWC LEADER PRAISED IN REPUBLIC

1. FOR PAST TWO WEEKS, MOST UNLIKELY HERO OF DUBLIN MEDIA HAS BEEN HARRY MURRAY. HE IS CHAIRMAN OF THE ULSTER WORKERS' COUNCIL (UWC), WHICH CONDUCTED SUCCESSFUL GENERAL STRIKE AGAINST FIRST NI POWER-SHARING ADMINISTRATION. HIS VIEWS, NEVERTHELESS, ARE MUCH MORE POPULAR HERE THAN THOSE OF SUCH LEADING PROTESTANT POLITICIANS AS PAISLEY, CRAIG, TAYLOR, AND WEST. DESPITE HEAVY CRITICISM IN NORTH, MURRAY HAS STUCK TO HIS VIEWS, WHICH HE FIRST EXPRESSED AT CONFERENCE IN ENGLAND, THEN OVER IRISH RADIO/TV, AND FINALLY IN LONG INTERVIEW IN (DUBLIN) SUNDAY INDEPENDENT JUL 14.

2. DURING LATTER INTERVIEW, MURRAY REPEATEDLY SAID THAT HIS GOAL WAS TO IMPROVE LIFE FOR MEMBERS OF WORKING CLASS, REGARDLESS OF THEIR RELIGION. HE RESENTED TRADITIONAL EXPLOITATION OF PROTESTANT WORKING CLASS BY UPPER-CLASS UNIONIST/POLITICIANS. (THIS THEME HAS LONG BEEN POPULAR IN LABOR UNIONS BUT NOT, OF COURSE, AMONG UNIONIST LEADERS.) MURRAY CALLED HIMSELF AN "IRISHMAN" AND SAID: "I DON'T GO FOR THESE PEOPLE WHO CALL THEMSELVES ULST-

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 DUBLIN 00942 161716Z

ERMEN OR WHAT HAVE YOU." FURTHER, TO AMAZEMENT OF INTERVIEWER,

HE CONFESSED THAT HE WAS ADMIRER OF WOLFE TONE (A PROTESTANT MARTYR WHO HAS BECOME MAXIMUM SYMBOL OF REPUBLICAN MYTHOLOGY). MURRAY ADDED THAT HE DID NOT LIKE WEST UNIONISTS' PLATFORM AND DID NOT WANT A RETURN TO OLD STORMONT SYSTEM, SINCE HE BELIEVED CATHOLICS SHOULD HAVE REAL PART IN RUNNING THE COUNTRY. HE DID NOT ASK CATHOLICS TO "ABANDON FOREVER THEIR ASPIRATIONS FOR A UNITED IRELAND"; HE MERELY WANTED THEM TO ACCEPT THAT, MOST IN NI DO NOT NOW WANT UNITY. AT SEVERAL POINTS, HE SEEMED TO LOOK ON UNITY AS A REAL OPTION: "I WOULD SAY TO PEOPLE IN THE SOUTH THAT IF YOU WANT US TO JOIN YOU, YOU MUST TACKLE YOUR OWN PROBLEMS," SUCH AS LOW WORKERS' BENEFITS, RESTRICTIONS ON CONTRACEPTION, AND "POWER OF CATHOLIC HIERARCHY TO INTERFERE IN ORDINARY PEOPLE'S LIVES." SOUTHERNERS ARE USED TO HEARING THIS KIND OF TALK FROM THEIR OWN LABOR PARTY, BUT HARDLY FROM NORTHERNERS.

3. MURRAY SAID THAT HE FAVORED "POWER-SHARING," BUT HE SEEMED TO MEAN THAT CATHOLICS WOULD HAVE POWER ON LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES RATHER THAN IN GOVT ITSELF. HE DID NOT, HOWEVER, RULE OUT GOVT BY A COALITION INCLUDING SDLP.

4. COMMENT: MURRAY IS LATEST IN A LONG LINE OF PROTESTANT LEADERS WHO HAVE BEEN IN VOGUE HERE OVER PAST THREE YEARS: O'NEILL, PAISLEY, BOAL, AND FAULKNER AS LEADING EXAMPLES. ALL HAVE FALLEN FROM POWER OR RETREATED TO ORTHODOXY. MURRAY DOES HAVE ONE DIFFERENCE, HOWEVER: HE COMES ACROSS TO LISTENERS AS AUTHENTIC WORKING MAN WITH NO INTEREST IN POLITICAL EXPEDIENCY. IF HE STAYS IN POWER, HE WILL FIND LONG LINE OF SOUTHERN LEADERS WAITING TO TALK TO HIM. MOORE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, LABOR UNION OFFICIALS, LABOR POLICY LINE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974DUBLIN00942
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740190-0964
From: DUBLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740746/aaaabnfw.tel
Line Count: 89
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 MAY 2002 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <27 MAR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UWC LEADER PRAISED IN REPUBLIC
TAGS: PINT, PBOR, EI, UWC, (MURRAY, HARRY)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005